

## Message Text

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60

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:RWERDMAN:VF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 089898

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, CY, US, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR JOINT US-USSR ROLE ON CYPRUS

1. SOVIET MINISTER VORONTSOV CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN ON APRIL 4 TO DELIVER "A PIECE OF PAPER" SUGGESTING THAT US AND USSR JOINTLY USE THEIR GOOD OFFICES TO REACH A SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS. THE PAPER, FULL TEXT OF WHICH BEING POUCHED, ARGUES THAT UNITED NATIONS ACTION HAS NOT BROUGHT ABOUT A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT AND THAT THE "STALEMATE EXISTING IN THE CYPRUS QUESTION IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DANGEROUS." SOVIET PAPER REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS BUT DOES NOT COMMENT ON WHAT KIND OF SOLUTION SHOULD BE DEVELOPED.

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2. ON APRIL 18 HARTMAN RESPONDED TO VORONTSOV ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

US SHARES GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF SUPPORTING SOVEREIGNTY, INDE-

PENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS, AND WE ARE HEARTENED BY RECENT AGREEMENT TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS APRIL 28. WE BELIEVE THE PARTIES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH AND TO MAKE PROGRESS THROUGH THESE NEGOTIATIONS ON A SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES.

WE DO NOT THINK THAT A JOINT INITIATIVE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AS IT MIGHT COMPLICATE PRESENT NEGOTIATING EFFORTS AND BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ONE OR MORE OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

3. HARTMAN THEN REVIEWED BRIEFLY AND IN GENERAL TERMS HIS MISSION TO ANKARA AND ATHENS, POINTING OUT THAT HE WOULD BE FOLLOWING UP TALKS THE SECRETARY HAD HAD WITH GREEK AND TURKISH LEADERS LAST MONTH TO SEE IF WE CAN BE HELPFUL IN NARROWING POSITION PRIOR TO THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS APRIL 28. HARTMAN EMPHASIZED THAT THE US HAS NO PLAN AND THAT HE WOULD NOT BE A "MEDIATOR." US' CONCERN IS THAT SOME NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORK BE ESTABLISHED SO THAT NEGOTIATIONS, ONCE RESUMED, DO NOT REACH IMMEDIATE IMPASSE ON QUESTION OF BIREGIONAL VS. MULTI-REGIONAL SOLUTION. HARTMAN STRESSED THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, FOR THE LONGER THE PROBLEM REMAINS UNRESOLVED, THE MORE DESTABILIZING THE SITUATION WILL BECOME.

4. VORONTSOV REPLIED THAT SOVIET CONCERN OVER UNSTABLE SITUATION IN AN AREA SO CLOSE TO SOVIET BORDERS WAS WHAT PROMPTED SOVIET SUGGESTION

----- AND THAT "MOSCOW WILL BE DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU TURNED AWAY FROM OUR EXTENDED HAND." VORONTSOV SAID THEY HAD NOTED CRITICISM OF THE USSR FOR NON-COOPERATION IN CERTAIN MATTERS, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND US IS NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT SUGGESTION TO ACT TOGETHER AND WAS ATTEMPTING TO ACT ALONE IN GOOD OFFICES ROLE.

5. HARTMAN EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE NOT PLAYING A GOOD SECRET

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OFFICES ROLE BUT ARE MERELY CONTINUING TALKS WITH EACH OF THE PARTIES TO HELP THEM REACH AN AGREEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO ALL SIDES. VORONTSOV SAID THAT HE WOULD REPORT US RESPONSE AND REPEATED THAT MOSCOW WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED. KISSINGER

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**To:** NICOSIA INFO ATHENS  
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